Mr. Eric Newman

October 7, 1996

Dear Eric:

I hope my note finds you and yours, "All the Best"

Congratulations on
"The Occasion"
Of You
Being Honored
Numistist of The Year 1996

I couldn't begin to think of a Gentleman more worthy than you.

Your research alone surpass
The most competent
in the numismatic arena
Today!

I mounted your picture from Coin World and its "Top Drawer" in my 1880's "American Coin Cabinet."

Please let me wish you much continued success in the future

You're friend,
Bob Wester

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Mr. Robert Wester
608 Alton Woods
Concord, NH 03301

October 17, 1996

Dear Bob:

It was kind of you to write me about the fuss they are making at ANA and ANS by using me for a fund raising event.

You were one who always encouraged me and helped me solve difficult problems. Crosby would like to have had the opportunity of thanking you but I thank you on his behalf since you sent me his family photograph which I cherish.

I am 85 but have not stopped writing. I enclose my latest publication.

Your handwriting indicates you are in fine shape so stay that way.

Your friend,

Eric P. Newman

A Time To Remember:

Jaazaniah Crosby

By DENIS PAISTE
Sunday News Staff

CHARLESTOWN, Oct. 12 — One-hundred and seventy-five years ago on Oct. 17, the Rev. Dr. Jaazaniah Crosby was ordained minister of the South Parish Church here,

See related story Page 1C

beginning a 54-year pastorate that is remembered still.

A witty, learned man who went from poverty to Har-

CROSBY Page 16A

Guard Called In Berlin Crisis

By BARRY PALMER
Sunday News Staff

October 1961 — Roger Maris had just broken Babe Ruth's season home run record with his 61st.

The New Hampshire foliage was in full blossom.

And major problems were surfacing in Berlin.

Countless people were fleeing East Germany in search of freedom in the western sector. The United States and the Soviet Union began intense talks to resolve the Berlin Crisis, but President John F. Kennedy informed the Kremlin there would be no East-West negotiations on Red terms.

In line with this, President Kennedy federalized some New Hampshire Army National Guard units to checkmate this growing crisis.

Among those called to ac-

BERLIN Page 16A

Dear Eric:

This was like a final the episodes of in" S. S. & Crosbys of Charlestown

The project lasted 6 years. I thought they did a nice piece of work, "Manchester Sunday News"

Best Regards,
Bob Wester

CROSBY

(Continued from Page 1A)

vard College, Crosby led his parish from orthodox Congregationalist affiliation to Unitarianism and oversaw the rebuilding of the church after a fire in 1843.

Crosby is remembered as a minister who put service to his congregation ahead of doctrinal conformity and decency ahead of ritual observance.

In the "Annals of Charlestown," the first written history of the town, which was published by the New Hampshire Historical Society, Crosby noted that some had reproached the people of Charlestown for caring "too little for religion *even to quarrel about it*."

But, from his own perspective then — as a minister for 23 years — Crosby attributed their seeming indifference to their belief "that religion was designed for salutary effect rather than for display; that it is its chief purpose to make and preserve the heart right with God, and not to secure the observation of man; that its best display is the work of righteousness."

In any case, the general disposition of the Charlestown community was well-suited to the self-questioning young minister who came to them in 1810.

Crosby had studied for five years with Dr. Jesse Appleton, then minister at Hampton Falls and later president of Bowdoin College from 1807 to 1819.

Although Crosby briefly doubted his calling because his thinking clashed with the Congregationalist orthodoxy of his time, he was soon reassured of his calling and grew stronger in his own convictions.

In his 1866 biography of Crosby, the Rev. Livingston Stone, then pastor of the South Parish, wrote that "After his ordination, Dr. Crosby gave free rein to the liberal opinions he had always to some extent entertained; and, before a long time had elapsed, he came out publicly as a Unitarian."

Both pastor and parish embraced the Unitarian faith, the parish affiliation continuing down to the present, but the conversion was not without dissenters. In the wake of it, disgruntled South Parish members broke off to form Methodist, orthodox Congregationalist, and Episcopalian churches in Charlestown.

"The whole dispute was unitarianism versus trinitarianism," the Rev. Madelyn Barber of Walpole, now minister to the South Parish Unitarian Church, said in a recent telephone interview.

Noting that Oct. 19 will be the 150th anniversary of the Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, in Charlestown, she said, the two churches broke new ground this past summer by conducting joint services.

"The Rev. Stephen Small (now minister of the Congregational Church) conducted services in July at the South Parish Church and I conducted them in August at the Congregational Church," Barber said.

Crosby expressed his own liberal theology in his sermon in 1843 dedicating the new South Parish Church building, which stands today. He said, in part, "We are not of those, who can see beyond their own sect and creed only vessels of wrath, fitted for de-

SYLVESTER SAGE CROSBY

struction, for we believe that, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, others may be saved even as we.

"There are often qualities of the heart, which are more than a balance for the errors of the head . . . the best faith is that, which exerts the greatest and the most salutary power over the heart and the life," Crosby said.

History shows that Crosby himself remained untouched by the bitterness that often accompanies the rupture of a community into rival churches. His warm embrace of all comers, regardless of social station, and his great personal appeal, cut through the sectarian squabbles.

In his published 1843 sermon, Crosby said, "Here let not the brother of high degree feel his exaltation, nor the brother of low degreee his depression; for here, in the presence of the great Father, all his children meet on terms of complete equality;— not, indeed, in all respects; for as exaltation in the sight of God is measured by attainments in holiness, the last may be first, and the first last."

"The History of Charlestown," by the Rev. Henry H. Saunderson, records that Crosby "was peculiarly a man of sympathy, who entered into the feelings of joy or sorrow, felt by his parishioners, in such a manner as to cause them to feel, that whatever contributed to their happiness, or unhappiness, also similarly affected him."

Biographer Stone said of Crosby, "A cheering salutation, a happy remark, or a playful jest, was always ready on his lips to carry the sunshine of his own heart into the hearts of those about him."

"Possessed of naturally amiable qualities — clear perceptive powers which gave him an almost immediate insight into the character of those with whom he met; and a remarkable ability of adapting himself without the loss of dignity to the company he was in, caused him everywhere to be received with manifestations of the kindest regard," Charlestown history author Saunderson wrote.

"He thus became popular in the best sense of the word, by gathering into the circle of those bound to him by the ties of friendship, the whole community," Saunderson noted.

Crosby's sunny disposition is even more noteworthy because of the personal adversity he endured. Born in Hebron, April 3, 1780, he grew up in a family of nine who lived in a one-room log home measuring eighteen feet by twelve.

His father, for whom he was named, "was always in trouble as an *honest debtor* must be when he can look forward to no means of relief," Crosby wrote, according to Saunderson.

It is said that Crosby walked the 80 miles from Hebron to Phillips Exeter Academy, where he began his formal education on a scholarship, and to which he would return briefly as a teacher after graduating from Harvard.

Crosby was twice widowered and thrice married. His first wife Anne R. Parker, bore him one child, his second wife, Huldah R. Sage, bore 10, of whom three died in infancy. In November, 1838, he married Elizabeth Allen, who survived him.

Of his children, it is noteworthy that brothers Edward and William Crosby founded the Crosby, Nichols and Co. publishing house in Boston, while his daughter Clara married Edward Gilchrist, who was a naval surgeon and son of New Hampshire Supreme Court Justice John Gilchrist.

Another son, James Crosby became a pharmacist in Boston and married Mary Pierpont, duaghter of the Rev. John Pierpont, a prominent Unitarian minister in Boston.

But his most famous son was Sylvester Sage Crosby. He was named after Huldah Robinson Sage's father, the Rev. Sylvester Sage, the Yale-educated minister at Westminster, Vermont.

Sylvester Sage Crosby was a watchmaker by trade, based in Cambridge, Mass., but it was as a coin collector that he became noted. It is his comprehensive book, "The Early Coins of America," which survives as the most visible imprint of the Crosby family.

Recently reprinted for the fifth time by Quarterman Publications, of Lawrence, Mass. "The Early Coins," earned Sylvester Sage Crosby the posthumous honor in 1930 of being the only American numismatic scholar to have his name cut into the frieze of the front facade of the American Numismatic Society headquarters in New York.

Editor's note: Robert Wester of Pembroke, a coin collector and amateur historian, was of invaluable assistance in the preparation of this article. Wester came to focus on Rev. Jaazaniah Crosby through his work on Sylvester Sage Crosby's "The Early Coins of America."

MEGABUCKS

(Continued from Page 1A)

30. There was no information concerning winners available by presstime Saturday night.

Jones attributed the build-up of sales to the seasonable weather which drew foliage viewers and tourists to the highways and the adjacent sweepstakes sales outlets.

Last Saturday night's drawing produced no winner. The jackpot money that would have been awarded was carried into this week'sTri-State Megabucks sales.